

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2472

Introduced by Assembly Member Huffman

February 19, 2010

An act to add Section 18941.8 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to building standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2472, as introduced, Huffman. Building standards: experimental permit program.

The California Building Standards Law provides for the adoption of building standards by state agencies by requiring all state agencies that adopt or propose adoption of any building standard to submit the building standard to the California Building Standards Commission for approval and adoption. Existing law requires that all building standards shall be administered and enforced and, whenever practicable, written on a performance basis consistent with state and nationally recognized standards for building construction.

Existing law authorizes a city or county to make changes or modifications in the requirements contained in the provisions published in the California Building Standards Code and other specified regulations, including, but not limited to, changes or modifications to green building standards.

This bill would, notwithstanding existing law, authorize a city, county, or city and county to adopt an experimental permit program that exempts an unspecified number of buildings from the California Building Standards Code in order to facilitate innovation of environmentally sustainable building materials, methods, and designs. The bill would impose certain reporting requirements on the city, county, or city and

county relating to the scope, designs, modifications, and performance measures of the permit program and the permits issued.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 18941.8 is added to the Health and Safety
2 Code, to read:
3 18941.8. (a) Notwithstanding Section 18941, a city, county,
4 or city and county may adopt an experimental permit program that
5 exempts up to ____ buildings from the California Building
6 Standards Code, in order to facilitate innovation of environmentally
7 sustainable building materials, methods, and designs.
8 (b) A city, county, or city and county that adopts an experimental
9 permit program pursuant to this section shall report to the
10 Department of Housing and Community Development and the
11 commission on both of the following:
12 (1) No later than six months after adoption of the experimental
13 permit program, the local jurisdiction shall report on the scope and
14 requirements of the program and the types of permits to be issued.
15 (2) Five years after the adoption of the experimental permit
16 program, the local jurisdiction shall report on the types of permits
17 issued, the number of each type of permit issued, an assessment
18 of the program's success, and recommendations for future revisions
19 to the experimental permit program.
20 (c) A city, county, or city and county that adopts an experimental
21 permit program shall require that upon resale of a property where
22 an experimental permit has been issued, that the seller notify the
23 buyer in writing of the building designs and modifications approved
24 under the experimental permit program for that property.
25 (d) A city, county, or city and county that adopts an experimental
26 permit program shall require the property owners to measure and
27 record performance data of the innovative features covered under
28 the experimental permit.